

EPAG Minutes *approved 9/3/2008*

Wednesday, August 27th, 4:00 to 5:30

Campus Center 214

Kendrick Brown, Pete Ferderer (Chair), Terri Fishel, Terry Krier, Carleton Macy, David Martyn, Kathy Murray, Jayne Niemi, Tom Varberg, Eric Wiertelak,

1. Pete gave us an update on various academic standing cases.
2. The course changes that were requested since last spring were approved as listed on the draft of the course change memo that will circulate to the faculty. A student's request to count a Music course at UST for domestic diversity (endorsed by the music department) was approved, and Jayne will notify the student.
3. GER update: We looked at the most current roster of committee members. Multiculturalism chair still up for grabs and Kendrick will do it. We discussed the Subcommittee structure, and the role of the chair and staff member. Kathy is comfortable asking the staff members to do the administrative work. We agreed that transfer students would request approval for courses, with as much documentation of course content as possible, and bring all the documents to the Registrar's Office. The documents will then be scanned and emailed to the appropriate subcommittee for consideration. The subcommittee then notifies the Registrar and the student via email. Jayne will find a place to describe this process on the web page. The subcommittee chairs should work with their members to achieve staggered terms. What about assessment of the GERs? Eric recalled the questions that the subcommittees added to the IDEA instrument – does anyone know the results? Karl Wirth would know where they are. There was discussion of the relationship of the course grade to assessment. Assessment of process itself is one issue. There are other issues as well, such as objective assessment, self assessment, etc. It is quite possible that EPAG is not the body to assess overall effectiveness of the Gen Ed requirements, and that Kathy can talk it through with other bodies that might be appropriate.
4. Minutes must be approved: are they?
5. CST: We talked about the ever-popular scholarship and/or teaching issue. It was noted that many of the documents talked about the synergy of the two. Perhaps the name and mission of the center should be changed to reflect that synergizing activity, and make it clear that support of faculty scholarship in isolation from teaching is not among its functions. However, Adrienne is attempting to add more activities to support faculty scholarship. David described the humanities symposium that is being developed. We had questions about the history of funding for the CST and whether changes in funding sources will impact the choices made. The Step Forward campaign will hopefully bring more permanent funding. Another issue: are they doing too much; program sprawl? Is this better discussed after the new director has some time

to plan and implement new programs. There was a suggestion to have another associate director for scholarship, and the advisory committee was largely not in favor of that. Also since the current associate director position rotates, it's possible that someone will have the focus. Pete will send a letter to Adrienne on behalf of EPAG.

6. Develop criteria for review of concentrations: Pete summarized what has been discussed before. Not all of the current concentrations have programs (as defined in the revisions done last year), and need to come into compliance. It makes sense to start by reviewing the most "senior" of the existing concentrations. That order would be Urban Studies, Legal Studies, African Studies, Middle Eastern Studies and Islamic Civilization, Human Rights & Humanitarianism, and Global Citizenship. Community and Global Health was approved as a program with a concentration already.
7. Adjourned at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Niemi, Registrar